Many that have at times made mone to me,
Therefore he hates me.
Sal. I am ſure the Duke will never grant
This forfeiture to hold.
Ant. The Duke cannot deny the courſe of Law:
For the Commodity that ſtrangers have
With us in *Venice*, if it be denyed,
Will much impeach the juſtice of the ſtate,
Since that the Trade and Profit of the Citie
Conſiſteth of all Nations. Therefore go,
Theſe griefes and loſſes hath ſo bated me
That I ſhall hardly ſpare a pound of fleſh
To morrow, to my bloudy Creditor.
Well Iaylor on, pray God *Baſſanio* come
To ſee me pay his debt, and then I care not. *Exeunt.*

Enter Portia, Nerriſſa, Lorenzo, Jeſſica, *and a man of* Portia's.

Lor. Madam, although I ſpeak it in your preſence,
You have a noble and a true conceit
Of gold-like amitie, which appeares moſt ſtrongly
In bearing thus the abſence of your Lord.
But if you knew to whom you ſhew this honour,
How true a Gentleman you ſend reliefe,
How deere a Lover of my Lord your husband,
I know you would be prouder of the worke,
Then cuſtomary bounty can enforce you.
Por. I never did repent for doing good,
Nor ſhall not now: for in companions
That do converſe and waſt the time together,
Whoſe ſoules do beare an equall yoke of love,
There muſt be needs a like proportion
Of lyniaments, of manners, and of ſpirit;
Which makes me thinke that this *Anthonio*
Being the boſome Lover of my Lord,
Muſt needs be like my Lord. If it be ſo,
How little is the coſt I have beſtowed

In

In purchaſing the ſemblance of
From out the ſtate of helliſh cru
This comes too neere the praiſi
Therefore no more of it. heere
Lorenſo I commit into your han
The husbandry and mannage of
Untill my Lords returne: for mi
I have toward heaven breath'd
To live in prayer and contempla
Onely attended by *Nerriſſa* her
Until her husband and my Lor
There is a Monaſtery two miles
And there we will abide. I do
Not to deny this impoſition,
The which my Love, and ſome
Now layes upon me.
Loren. Madame, with all my
I ſhall obey you in all faire comm
Por. My people do already k
And will acknowledge you and
In place of Lord *Baſſanio* and m
So fare you well till we ſhall m
Lor. Faire thoughts and hap
Jeſſ. I wiſh your Ladiſhip al
Por. I thank you for your w
To wiſh it back on you: fare y
Now *Balthaſer*, as I have ever
So let me find thee ſtill: taket
And uſe thou all th'endevour o
In ſpeed to *Mantua*, ſee thou re
Into my cousins hand Doctor
And look what notes and garm
Being them I pray thee with i
Unto the Traiect to the comm
Which Trades to *Venice*; waſ
But get thee gone, I ſhall be th
Baltha. Madam, I go with a
Por. Come on *Nerriſſa*, I h

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE *Merchant of Venice* (STC 22298) LONDON, 1637 UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH